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FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 79

TO AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

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EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

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TOHAK 79

TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SEC. KISSINGER

JANUARY 16, 1974

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

MARVIN KALB MADE THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON THE CBS NEWS TONIGHT:

QUOTE:

"KISSINGER SPENT SEVEN HOURS IN EGYPT TODAY RETURNING TO ISRAEL SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT CONVINCED HE HAS ALL BUT WRAPPED UP A DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. NINETY PERCENT DONE ACCORDING TO ONE OFFICIAL. MAJOR BUT ISSUES ARE NOW CLOSE TO FINAL RESOLUTION INCLUDING AMONG OTHER THINGS, EGYPTIAN WILLINGNESS TO REDUCE HER MANPOWER AND FIREPOWER ON THE EAST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL AND TO EXCLUDE SAM MISSILES FROM THIS AREA; ISRAELI WILLINGNESS TO WITHDRAW 22 MILES TO A LINE RUNNING FROM BALUZA IN THE NORTH THROUGH TO THE MITLA-GIDDI PASSES IN THE SOUTH. THIS PULLBACK BY ISRAEL AND THIS THINNING OUT OF HER FORCES BY EGYPT TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN 3 TO 4 WEEKS AFTER THE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED BY BOTH PARTIES. IN ADDITION TO THIS WRITTEN AGREEMENT, THERE WILL BE UNWRITTEN UNDERSTANDINGS. MANY OF THEM GUARANTEED BY THE UNITED STATES IN A WAY THAT IS NOT QUITE CLEAR TONIGHT BUT THAT SUGGESTS THAT DEEPER U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAN EVER BEFORE. THE AGREEMENT MAY BE FINALIZED TOMORROW DURING KISSINGER'S CONCLUDING SESSIONS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS. MARVIN KALB, CBS NEWS, TEL AVIV"

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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UNQUOTE.

WARM REGARDS.
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